Fitzgerald

Ideas Shared in Class for Reader’s Response Journal Entry Analysis

Prompt –

Write an analysis of the thoughtfulness and development of the following three journal entries.

Be sure to think about what the prompt is asking you to analyze before you start to write.

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| **Meaning of “Thoughtfulness”**  Main Idea and Supporting reasons are –   * Not obvious * Not something every reader notices and would agree with * Not something the author obviously wanted all readers to think * Something that readers could have a lively discussion about and maybe disagree about – allows the author to make and support an opinion |

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| **Meaning of “Development”**   * Specific details from the story are given to prove the main idea   + Exact quotes , word(s) used   + Paraphrasing of key event, description, discussion   + Page number/line number if possible, so reader could find the evidenced himself * The detail is introduced before it is given, so the reader understands its place in the story * After the detail is related, an explanation of how the detail proves the main idea is provided   Pattern   * Introduce detail to be used as evidence * Give detail that provides evidence to support your point * Explain how the evidence proves your main idea   Example – | |
| **Main Idea**  **Introduce your first reason.**  **Give background information needed to understand evidence.**  **Give Evidence.**  **Explain how the evidence proves your main idea.** | **Even though Ernie never meets his crush, Dolores, his love transforms himself, Dolores, and Stan, so just the existence of love, feeling it, receiving it, or watching someone else receive love has the power to change a person’s life.**  **The flowers make Dolores believe someone could love her. Ernie has only seen Dolores through the window of the store, when he is in town to eat breakfast on Wednesday mornings. He brings her flowers that his new friend Jack, the helper at his group home, has taught him to grow. He leaves them in a mason jar on the stoop of the store before the store is even open. There is no note, so Dolores never knows who they are from. But she completely changes because of the flowers. Because she was so knowledgeable about hardware and had a tattoo, none of the men in the town knew how to court her, and the women in town all thought she didn’t want love because she did not wear a “silk blouse” or “concealing beige foundation, some frosted peach lipstick, and a good grey liner for the eyes.” But after 20 years at the hardware store, just one summer of finding flowers that were waiting for her on the stoop every Wednesday morning, she started to wear “crisp, white blouses” instead of t-shirts, and “Occasionally, she put on a bracelet.” She has come to believe she deserves love because of the flowers. She had put up barriers before because she didn’t believe she was loveable, so she wanted to pretend she didn’t even want to be loved, so no one would pity her. Now she is open to being loved.** |

Class Ideas - Reader Response #1

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| Thoughtfulness – Low  The author obviously means for Della to be the bad guy; she expects the reader to be mad at Della. No one would disagree.  Development – None  The reader has no idea who or what “the girl,” “she,” “it,” or “stuff” are.  The two specific references to the story,  “Brogy” and “the test” are inaccurate because the writer probably meant Warden Brogg and the test for the Scourge, but the River People from Ani’s home do not have the test, so she could not go home and take the test. | I was furious when that girl told Brogy all the stuff she did. I guess I understand they she had no clue what was going on and why they were doing it. But it still made me mad because I was hoping she would not get caught so she can get home and take the test so she and all the others know that don’t have the disease. Because if she can’t take the test then she basically has no chance. |

Class Ideas - Reader Response #2

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| Thoughtfulness – Medium - Low  It is pretty obvious that both Fever and The Scourge are about a contagious disease. Every reader would have made this connection, and no one would disagree. So this topic would not lead to any discussion.  The examples of specific symptoms being looked for and patients needing to be isolated are more thoughtful, though.  Another student also included the idea of the characters being separated from their parents because of the disease, which is thoughtful.  Development – Low  Saying “The scene on pp. 10-26” is not helpful to the reader because no one has memorized what is happening on a certain page. The scene should be described.  The isolation of people in each novel should be described in detail.  It is pretty obvious that all disease have symptoms and all sick people are supposed to stay away from other and not spread the disease.  A third point in reason the two novels are similar, like the one mentioned above about being separated from parents should be given. | The scene on pp. 10-26 reminds me of a similar scene in the novel fever. In the scene in the Scourge Ani and her friend are about to be tested for the deadly Scourge. The people who took Ani and her friend looked for Signs for the scourge on them. Some of the signs of the Scourge include reddened skin, open wounds, Rashes, and fever. This reminds me of fever for a couple of reasons. One of the main reasons in the novel Fever they also look for signs of the dieses, like yellow tinted eyes and a fever. Another reason this reminds me of Fever is that the fever patinets, and scourge patiets both have to be esolated away from other people, so if they have the sickness it wont spred. Fever and Scourge are similar in one last way. Fever and Scourge are both deadly sickness but Fever actually happened and was based off the yellow Fever. |

Reader Response #3

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| Thoughtfulness – High  Many people would just say fantasy novel and move on. A discussion of the level of detail in the novel is not common. A discussion of whether this lower level of detail is good could be one that many people have opinions on and disagree about, so the discussion would be lively. Taking a stand against a famous fantasy novel, perhaps the most famous, The fellowship of the Rings, is bold and would also get many readers arguing and offering evidence to support their opinion.  Development – High  Specific detail on the level of detail are given, from the many in the first chapter, to the scattered details after that with an example given by page number, to many examples of details that seem somewhat medieval.  Explanation is provided at the end of why this level of detail is “just right,” because it does not require the reader to take notes or use reference books to follow the story and allows the reader to focus on things like plot, character, and theme. | I guess this novel would be considered a fantasy novel, as it is not set in a real world, but the imaginary world is not very detailed. I actually like that. Since the exposition is supposed to make the reader aware of the setting, the first chapter does convey that the setting is in a fantasy world. The main character, Ani, must do battle with a “hecklebird” as she tried to get some “vinefruit,” and neither a “hecklebird” and “vinefruit” are real. As wardens arrive, Ani tells of her country of “Keldan” and the neighboring country of “Dulan,” and mentions an exploration of the “Scuttle Sea” that her friend’s father was forced to go on and the prisons on “Attic Island” where the Scourge started. None of these are real places. The wardens are out to catch five “grubs,” which Ani says is the name the townspeople or “pinchworms” call the “River People.” These are not real places or real groups of people. The conflict involves a disease called the “Scourge” which the River People seems to have been protected from getting by their use of “thrushweed” plant. Neither the disease and the medicinal plant are real. After the first chapter, though, there is only the stray mention of something unreal, like a “water cobra” that only a townsperson would be foolish enough to try to take a fish from (21), and maybe the time period seems a bit unreal, with somewhat medieval wagons and boats rowed or pulled by ropes for transportation, pick-able locks, sconces lighting hallways, men with titles like “Sir” Willoughby and “Warden” Brogg, women in dresses, servers in taverns, and girls who sing in the town square for coins. This level of detail is just right for me. The famous fantasy novels like Tolkein’s *The Fellowship of the Ring* have way too much detail for me. If I have to take notes on all the details or need to buy companion books that list all the different types of creatures and maps to keep track of all the worlds, then I no longer enjoy a novel. I am much more interested in plot and theme and character. Baby bear would find the *The Scourge* has not too much detail, not too little detail, but just enough! |